

Hampton County Council meetings will be live streamed on Hampton County's Facebook page or www.youtube.com/channel/UCyh96JiwWnf0Vx9it_WQkaw/live and archived on Hampton County's website at www.hamptoncountysc.org.

AGENDA

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
200 JACKSON AVENUE EAST
HAMPTON, SC 29924
JANUARY 20, 2026 @6:00 PM**

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- 2. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 - 2.1 Invocation**
 - 2.2 Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
 - 3.1 Hampton County Council January 20, 2026 Meeting Agenda**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1 Meeting Minutes from January 5, 2026 Hampton County Council Meeting**
- 5. PRESENTATIONS (10 Minutes)**
 - 5.1 2025 Annual Audit Report-Mauldin & Jenkins**
 - 5.2 The State of the Public Defender's Office-Stephanie Smart-Gittings**
- 6. PUBLIC COMMENT(S) (5 minutes)**
- 7. APPROVAL(S) OF ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION**
 - 7.1 Hampton County Credit Card Policy Update**
- 8. COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)**
 - 8.1 Chairman's Update**
 - 8.2 County Council Members Liaison Reports**
 - 8.3 County Attorney's Update**
 - 8.4 Clerk's Update-**
- 9. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**
 - 9.1 Finance Update**
- 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
 - 10.1 Personnel Matter- Discussion (Clerk to Council)**

11. ADJOURNMENT

*****NEXT COUNCIL MEETING 2/2/2026*****

Action may be taken on items discussed in executive session.

(1) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body; however, if an adversary hearing involving the employee or client is held, the employee or client has the right to demand that the hearing be **conducted publicly. Nothing contained in this item shall prevent the public body, in its discretion, from deleting the** names of the other employees or clients whose records are submitted for use at the hearing.

(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim.

(3) Discussion regarding the development of security personnel or devices.

(4) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.

(5) Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body.

Economic Development Projects Code Name Explanation

In accordance with South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, economic development projects are exempt from revealing the names of involved parties until public hearing. The proceedings are classified as a contractual negotiation, which is protected under state statutes.

Decorum Policy for County Council Meetings

Welcome to a meeting of your Hampton County Council. Council always enjoys seeing our citizens come to see Council at work on the issues which will move Hampton County forward.

No weapons of any type are allowed in this building at any time except by uniformed law enforcement officers on duty. All visitors are invited to stand and participate in the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation done at the start of every Council meeting.

Hampton County Council is a legislative body. For that reason, there are a number of rules in force for people who attend a Council session. As a legislative body, a council meeting is not a conversation with visitors or the public except during designated items on the agenda, such as during a Public Hearing. Rather, a Council meeting is a dialogue between its members regarding issues on the agenda. Visitors are welcomed as quiet observers of a Council meeting. The public may speak or participate only when recognized by the Chairman or by a Council member who has the floor. No smoking is allowed in this building and visitors are expected to remain quiet during council meetings except when properly recognized to speak. All cell phones will be turned off so as not to distract or interrupt the meeting or speakers.

A member of the public may speak during "Public Comments" in the agenda. To speak during "Public Comments" a visitor must first sign the register at the door prior to the start of the meeting. Speakers during "Public Comments" are given five (5) minutes by county ordinance to address the Council with their concerns. However, this time may be extended if questions or comments arise by Council members, the County Administrator or the County Attorney for the speaker. Persons already on the agenda as a speaker or presenter do not have to register.

Upon being recognized, speakers during "Public Comments" shall come forward to the podium and speak from the podium first giving their name and identifying the area of the county in which they reside. Speakers shall not approach the Council beyond the podium unless invited to by the Chairman or Acting Chairman. Speakers with handout materials for council members will give these materials to the Clerk to Council to be distributed to council members prior to speaking. Only one (1) person shall speak at a time and all speakers will come forward to the podium. Interruptions of a speaker by comments from the audience are not permitted. However, Council members, the County Administrator or County Attorney may have questions or comments of a speaker or presenter.

Visitors, speakers or presenters may leave the meeting at any time they wish.

Visitors who abuse this policy by repeatedly interrupting a speaker or presenter or by creating distractions will be asked to leave the meeting.

The County Council thanks you for your interest and attendance at a Council meeting and asks for your compliance with this policy.

Addendum to the Existing Decorum Policy for County Council Meetings

(Approved May 6, 2024)

Public Comment Period: No public comment period shall extend beyond 30 minutes. However, the Chair reserves the right to adjust the time limitation for individual speakers or the overall time period as necessary for the efficient and effective conduct of business.

1. A speaker may not share or relinquish any remaining time they have not used to another speaker.
2. Speakers are only allowed to speak one (1) time during the public comment period.
3. Speakers who have prepared written remarks or supporting documents are encouraged to leave a copy of such remarks and documents with the Clerk to Council.
4. Speaker substitutions at the meeting are not allowed.
5. Speakers shall refrain from personal attacks and/or threats directed towards elected Council members, County staff, or members of the public.
6. Speakers shall be civil and courteous in their language and presentation. Insults, profanity, use of vulgar language or gestures, or other inappropriate behavior are not allowed.
7. Campaigning for political office shall be disallowed by the Chair.
8. Speakers shall address the Chair with any, and all public comments. Comments, questions, jeering, or other interruptions from the audience are not allowed. Speakers shall likewise not address or respond to members of the audience.
9. During Public Comment (Citizen Recognition) periods, speakers should not expect elected Council members to comment on or respond to their comments directly during the meeting. The Chair, or presiding council member may, however, request the County Administrator's office to follow up with a speaker after the meeting or provide additional information to Council at a later date.
10. 1 I. The Chair, or presiding council member, has the authority to enforce the Rules of the Decorum Policy for County Council Meetings. Failure to obey these Rules may result in the forfeiture of the remaining speaking time.

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MINUTES

***HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
200 JACKSON AVENUE EAST
HAMPTON, SC 29924
JANUARY 5, 2026 @6:00 PM***

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER @ 6PM** by Chairman
Roll Call

<i>Roy Hollingsworth, Chairman</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
<i>Darrin Williams, Vice-Chairman</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
<i>Jordan Jinks, Member</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
<i>Dennis Thompson Jr, Member</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
<i>Marvin Love, Member</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
<i>Lavar Youmans, County Administrator</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
<i>Algie Solomons, County Attorney</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
<i>Altresia Orr, Clerk to Council</i>	<i>(Present)</i>
- 2. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 - 2.1** *Invocation -Councilman Hollingsworth*
 - 2.2** *Pledge of Allegiance -Councilman Hollingsworth*
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
 - 3.1** *Hampton County Council January 5, 2026 Meeting Agenda*
Motion to approve agenda with the removal of item 6.2 made by Councilman Jinks, Seconded by Councilman Thompson
All in favor, no opposed
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1** *Meeting Minutes from December 15, 2025 Hampton County Council Meeting*
Motion to approve minutes made by Councilman Thompson, seconded by Councilman Jinks
All in favor, no opposed
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT(S) (5 minutes please)** *None*

6. **APPROVAL(S) OF ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION**

6.1 Lease agreement between Town of Yemassee and Hampton County

Question (Councilman Jinks-Possible extension for Council to take a better look?)

Remark--Councilman Love-Doesn't see a reason to not approve tonight

Motion to approve lease agreement made by Councilman Jinks seconded by Councilman Thompson

All in favor, no opposed

7. **COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)**

7.1 Chairman's Update-

Councilman Hollingsworth-no update

7.2 County Council Members Liaison Reports

Councilman Love-Recreation Department needs volunteers to help with weekend games

Councilman Thompson-No Update

Councilman Williams-Free dinner for Community (Chairman reminded to give Clerk to Council all reminders/remarks from Council members if it's not liaison report)

Councilman Jinks-

1. Mrs. Orr is working on the proclamation for the Football team
2. New Director with LCOG-Hank Admundson

7.3 County Attorney's Update-

Algie Solomons-Happy New Year

7.4 Clerk's Update-

Altresia Orr-No updates

7. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Youmans-

- **5 Strategic Goals & Prioritized Objectives: Council Input**
- **Strategic Execution Priorities for 2026**
- **County Operational Initiatives**
- **FY26 Council Session Monthly Cadence**

Motion to go into executive session made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Jinks

Executive session started 6:40 PM

Motion to come out of executive session made by Councilman Jinks, seconded by Councilman Williams

All in favor, no opposed

Executive Session ended at 7:36 PM

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9.1 Personnel Matter (*Evaluations for County Attorney, Clerk to Council and County Administrator*)

All ok with evaluations-No Action Taken

9.2 Personnel Matter (*Administrator and Finance*)

Clarification Discussion-No Action Taken

9.3 Personnel Matter(*County Council Discussion*)

Open Discussion with Council-No action Taken

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Love, seconded by Councilman Jinks

All in favor, no opposed

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM

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Council Chairman

County Administrator

Clerk to Council